

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

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DRAFTED BY EB/ITP/EWT:JMGREGORY, JR.:MAR

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089867

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS:ESTC, COCOM, US, UR

SUBJECT: US ROAD SIMULATOR SYSTEM TO USSR - IL 1362, 1565,
1572

REF : A. COCOM DOC(74)264

B. OECD PARIS 5756

1. DEL MAY RESPOND TO UK QUESTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) US AUTHORITIES HAVE TAKEN NOTICE THAT SYSTEMS SUCH AS THAT PROPOSED IN (74)264 HAVE FOUND A STANDARD PLACE IN THE EQUIPMENT INVENTORIES OF MANY MAJOR AUTOMOTIVE PLANTS AND THEREFORE BELIEVE THAT ITS INSTALLATION IN THE KAMA RIVER PROJECT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. THE RISKS OF DIVERSION FOR STRATEGIC WEAPONS WOULD BE REDUCED BY PRESENCE OF WESTERN ENGINEERING PERSONNEL WHO WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT OVER THE YEARS AHEAD. STRATEGIC DIVERSION AS WELL AS POSSIBLY TESTING MILITARY GROUND VEHICLES WAS NOT REGARDED AS UNMANAGEABLE OR HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT IN THE LIGHT OF THE PLANT'S CIVIL ORIENTATION AND PROBABLE FUTURE DEPENDENCE ON
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ADDITIONAL WESTERN INPUTS.

(B) THE US RATIONALE ON EXPORTING THE RECORDERS WAS SIMILAR TO THAT FOR THE SIMULATOR SYSTEM ITSELF.

2. UKDEL'S OFF-THE-RECORD COMMENTS DO NOT APPEAR TO BE WHOLLY VALID IN THE GENERAL SENSE THAT A POSITION ON AN EMBARGO DEFINITION NEED HAVE NO IMPLICATION FOR POSITIONS ON INDIVIDUAL EXCEPTIONS PROPOSALS. ALSTON MAY RECALL THAT THE US AND OTHERS EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH THE 2,000 LB. THRUST CUTOFF, BUT IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WE WERE UNABLE TO DEVELOP A TECHNICALLY DEFENSIBLE AND MORE REASONABLE ALTERNATIVE. PERHAPS THE MOST GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION WE CAN PROVIDE ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEFINITIONAL AND EXCEPTIONS CASE POLICY IS TROPOSCATTER EQUIPMENT. TOTAL EMBARGO IS WARRANTED BY PRIMARY BLOC MILITARY USE IN PEACETIME, BUT WE ARE ON RECORD AS SAYING WE WILL APPROVE CIVILLY JUSTIFIED EXCEPTIONS PROPOSALS. THERE IS, OF COURSE, NO DENYING THAT APPROVING ONE EXCEPTIONS CASE AFTER A LONG PERIOD OF INACTION IS CONSPICUOUS, BUT AS THE UKDEL IS AWARE THE LAST CASES (UK FOR POLAND) WERE APPROVED EVEN THOUGH THE PRECEDING CASE (UK FOR USSR) WAS JUDGED INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE END USE BY THE US AND FRANCE. RUSH

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